

P-986A

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1 - 22 were a part of the English translation of International Application Number PCT/EP 98/06882 (Exhibit A). Applicants request that each of these claims be cancelled and new Claims 23 - 54 be added. Exhibit B, the Substitute Specification, includes these newly added Claims 23-54. A complete list of the status of the Claims of the application is attached as Exhibit C to this Preliminary Amendment. The Claims that are contained in Exhibit B should be reviewed by the USPTO as part of the Substitute Specification.